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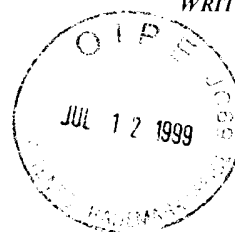
July 12, 1999

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/227,742; Filed: January 8, 1999  
For: **Method for Increasing Viability and Transformation Efficiency of  
Bacteria During Storage at Low Temperatures**  
Inventors: F. R. Bloom *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.4770003/RWE/GER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3) (*in duplicate*);
2. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
3. Copy of the Substitute Declaration for Patent Application as filed in parent Application No. 08/826,426; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

July 12, 1999

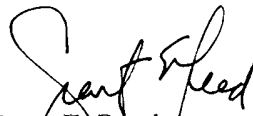
Page 2

necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Grant E. Reed  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 41.264

Enclosures

DUPLICATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

F. R. Bloom *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/227,742

Filed: January 8, 1999

For: **Method for Increasing Viability  
and Transformation Efficiency of  
Bacteria During Storage at Low  
Temperatures**



Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Railey, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4770003/RWE/GER

**Authorization To Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension Of Time  
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Grant E. Reed".

Grant E. Reed  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No. 41,264

Date: July 12, 1999

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